



Swing, swing, swing away
Tiger Woods prepares for the biannual Ryder Cup match on Sept. 22.

Sports

Back with a bang!
Scorsese returns to the big screen with a crime drama.

Movies

Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2006

www.timesdispatch.com

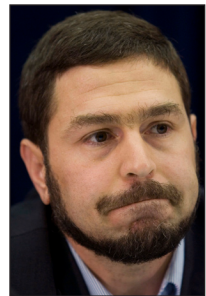
Times Dispatch

Canada blames America *Canadians fault Bush for his role in Torture case*

By Rob Gillies
The Associated Press

The United States "very likely" sent a Canadian software engineer to Syria, where he was tortured, based on the false accusation by Canadian authorities that he was suspected of links to al-Qaida, according to a new government report.

Syrian-born Maher Arar was exonerated of all suspicion of terrorist activity by the 2 1/2-year commission of inquiry into his case, which urged the Canadian government to offer him financial compensation. Arar is perhaps the world's best-known case of extraordinary rendition — the U.S. transfer of foreign terror suspects to third countries without court approval.



"I am able to say categorically that there is no evidence to indicate that Mr. Arar has committed any offense or that his activities constitute a threat to the security of Canada," Justice Dennis O'Connor said Monday in a three-volume report on the findings of the inquiry, part of which was made public.

Arar was traveling on a Canadian passport when he was detained at New York's Kennedy Airport on Sept. 26, 2002, on his way home from vacation in Tunisia.

Arar said U.S. authorities sent him to Syria for interrogation as a suspected member of al-Qaida, a link he denied.

He spent nearly a year in prison in Syria and made detailed allegations after his release in 2003 about extensive interrogation, beatings and whippings with electrical cables.

O'Connor criticized the U.S. and recommended that Ottawa file formal protests with both Washington and the Syrian government over Arar's treatment.

"The American authorities who handled Mr. Arar's case treated Mr. Arar in a most regrettable fashion," O'Connor wrote. "They removed him to Syria against his wishes and in the face of his statements that he would be tortured if sent there. Moreover, they dealt with Canadian officials involved with Mr.

See **TORTURE**, A2

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Reflection across the Nation

On the fifth anniversary of 9/11, Americans across the country remember those lost

By Amy Westfeldt
The Associated Press

The World Trade Center site fell silent four times — twice each to mark jetliner crashes and the collapse of its iconic towers — and solemn remembrances were held around the nation Monday to mark the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Ground zero in lower Manhattan went quiet at 8:46 a.m. and 9:03 a.m., for the impacts of American Airlines Flight 11 and United Flight 175, and again at 9:59 a.m. and 30 minutes later, when the south and north towers fell.

Family members of the 2,749 people lost in the trade center attacks held photos of their loved ones, crossed themselves and sobbed quietly as spouses and partners of the victims read their names, one by one.

"We've come back to remember the valor of those we've lost, those who innocently went to work that day and the brave souls who went in after them," former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said.

Quotes from around the nation

"The pain just doesn't go away."

—Dawn Donovan, Rutherford N.J.

"It's very hard. Our family has just been ripped apart. I still hold a lot of anger, and that's not only at the terrorists. I stayed mad at God for quite some time."

—Rebecca Marchand, Alamogordo N.M., whose husband was a flight attendant on United Airlines Flight 175

"There is indeed evil in the world, and we saw its awful face on that horrible day. It is also a day to recognize that very often when the worst in human nature and human behavior exhibits itself, so does the best."

—Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, speaking in Halifax, Nova Scotia



Mike Kittrell/Associated Press

University of Mobile freshman Callie Chandler, 18, prays during a Sept. 11 memorial service at Lyon Chapel in Prichard, Ala.



Andy Carpenean/Associated Press

The Army National Guard 45th Field Artillery Brigade stand at attention after presenting colors as four T6A Talons fly over David Allen Memorial Ballpark during Freedom Walk Monday, Sept. 11, 2006, in Enid, Okla.

More Sept. 11 5-year anniversary remembrances across the country

On Army post, students march in parade
Elementary school students in Kansas participated in a Freedom walk. **A5**

Texas pays tribute on fifth anniversary of Sept. 11
Civilian border watchers place 3,000 flags to represent 9/11 victims, Governor honors those who fight terror. **A2**

Stocks fall in value

Housing starts threaten Wall Street's future

By Ellen Simon
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stocks sagged in early trading Tuesday after housing starts suffered an unexpectedly steep decline in August.

The pace of housing starts fell 6 percent in August, which was twice as fast as expected. New housing construction notched its fifth decline in six months, hitting its lowest point in over three years.

Housing has replaced inflation as Wall Street's biggest worry, with fears that a sharp drop in the sector could cause a spike in unemployment and a slowdown in consumer spending.

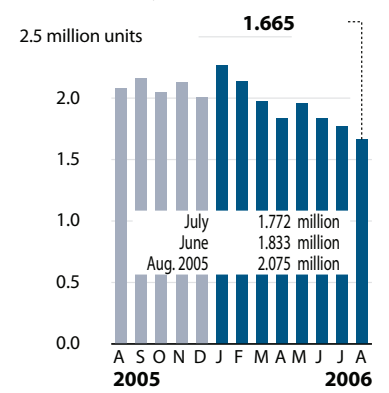
The housing data overshadowed the Labor Department's report that core inflation, which excludes food and energy, fell for the second straight month. The department said prices at the wholesale level edged modestly

See **HOUSING**, A2

Housing starts

The construction rate of new homes and apartments

Seasonally adjusted annualized rate



SOURCE: Department of Commerce AP

Jackie Hueng/Associated Press

Pot seized on Willie's music bus

Police inspection finds pot, other illegal substances

By The Associated Press

LAFAYETTE, La. — Willie Nelson and four others were issued misdemeanor citations for possession of illegal mushrooms and marijuana after a traffic stop Monday morning on a Louisiana highway, state police said.

The citations were issued after a commercial vehicle inspection of the country music star's tour bus, state police said in a news release.

"When the door was opened and the trooper began to speak to the driver, he smelled the strong odor of marijuana," the news release said. A search of the bus produced 1 1/2 pounds of marijuana and slightly more than three ounces of illegal mushrooms.

There were enough drugs to merit a felony charge of distribution if they had been found in one person's possession, state police spokesman Willie Williams said. But all five claimed the

See **WILLIE**, A2

